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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/064,473 | 07/17/2002 | Jacques P. Greetis | IP113.1 | 7902 |
| 23470 | 7590 | 03/23/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| SRAM CORPORATION 1333 N. KINGSBURY, 4TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60622 | | | KIM, CHONG HWA | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 3682 | |

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/064,473

Applicant(s)

GREETIS, JACQUES P.

Examiner

Chong H. Kim

Art Unit

3682

ML

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 and 14-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 13 and 17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

(Note: Regarding claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, and 16, applicant is reminded that although the product by process claim is permissible, the process in which the product is made cannot be given patentable weight in a product claim. Therefore, since the limitations such as “molded into”, “formed by injection molding”, or “insert-molded into” are processes in which the handlebar is made, they are not given patentable weight. See MPEP 2113)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rafac, U.S. Patent 5,269,196.

Rafac shows, in Figs. 1-4, a handlebar for a handlebar steered vehicle, the handlebar comprising;

a left end 22 for receiving a left handgrip;

a right end 24 for receiving a right handgrip opposed to the left handgrip;

a central section 14 disposed between the left and right ends;

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a connecting member 32 disposed in the central section and outwardly extending from the central section, the connecting member pivotally coupled to the vehicle along a steering axis of the vehicle;

wherein the handlebar is made of nylon with elastomeric modifier;

wherein the connecting member is made of metal.

3. Claims 6-12 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rafac, U.S. Patent 5,269,196.

Rafac shows, in Figs. 1-4, an integral rider control device for a handlebar steered vehicle, the device comprising;

an integral support structure 10 having a left end 22 for receiving a left handgrip and a right end 24 for receiving a right handgrip opposed to the left handgrip;

a plurality of non-tubular receptacles 96 and 98 formed in the integral support structure between the left end and the right end thereof, the receptacles each configured to receive a piece of equipment selected from a group consisting controls;

a central section 14 of the support structure disposed between the left and right ends;

a connecting member 32 disposed in the central section and outwardly extending from the central section, the connecting member pivotally coupled to the vehicle along a steering axis of the vehicle;

wherein the integral support structure is made of nylon with elastomeric modifier;

wherein the connecting member is made of metal.

wherein the left and right ends of the support structure have outwardly projecting left and right mandrels adapted to receive a handgrip;

wherein at least one of the left and right ends includes an outwardly projecting cylindrical sidewall; and

wherein the at least one receptacle receives an indicator 110 positioned near to one of the left and right ends.

4. Claims 6, 10-12, and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pullin, GB Patent 301,636.

Pullin shows, in Figs. 1-6, an integral rider control device for a handlebar steered vehicle, the device comprising;

an integral support structure 2 having a left end 7 for receiving a left handgrip 8 and a right end 7 for receiving a right handgrip 8 opposed to the left handgrip;

a plurality of non-tubular receptacles 12-14 formed in the integral support structure between the left end and the right end thereof, the receptacles each configured to receive a piece of equipment selected from a group consisting controls, displays and accessories;

a central section 3 of the support structure disposed between the left and right ends;

a connecting member 25 disposed in the central section and outwardly extending from the central section, the connecting member pivotally coupled to the vehicle along a steering axis of the vehicle;

wherein the connecting member is made of metal;

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wherein the left and right ends of the support structure have outwardly projecting left and right mandrels adapted to receive a handgrip;

wherein at least one of the left and right ends includes an outwardly projecting cylindrical sidewall;

wherein the integral support structure includes at least one cable passage (inherent) extending through at least a portion of the integral support structure, the cable passage configured to provide a connection path between at least two piece of equipment;

wherein the at least one receptacle receives an indicator 12 positioned near to one of the left and right ends; and

wherein the integral support structure includes upper and lower, substantially parallel spars 9, the connecting member coupled to the lower spar.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 13 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Handlebar structure.

Peralle, FR Patent 26554698

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Borromeo, U.S. Patent Des. 301,027

Nastrucci, GB Patent 2138755 A

Pierre et al., FR Patent 2678231

Masui, U.S. Patent 6,069,788

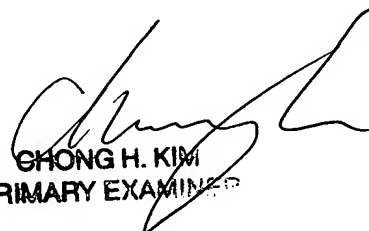
Inaoka et al., FR Patent 2775248

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chong H. Kim whose telephone number is (703) 305-0922. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday - Friday; 8:00 - 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A Bucci can be reached on (703) 308-3668. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

chk
March 18, 2004


CHONG H. KIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER